
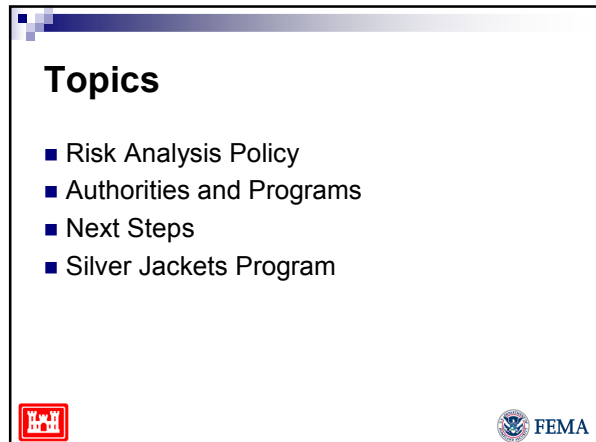




USACE and Levee Certification



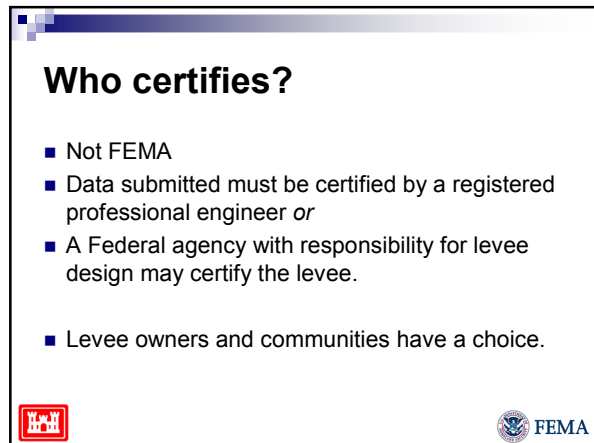
Tammy Conforti, USACE-IWR

November 30, 2006



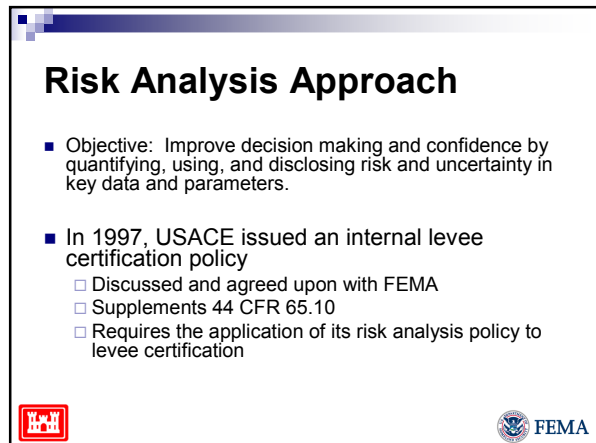
Topics

- Risk Analysis Policy
- Authorities and Programs
- Next Steps
- Silver Jackets Program



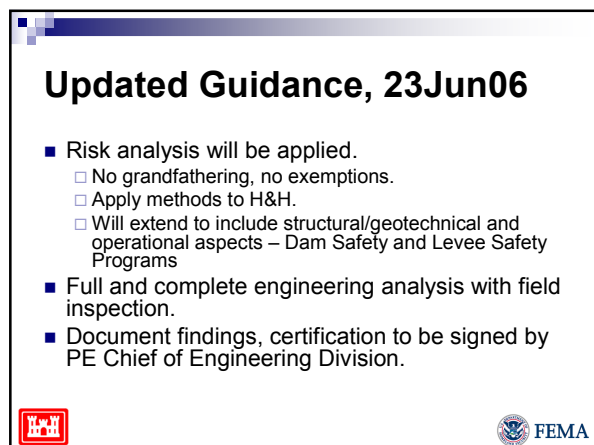
Who certifies?

- Not FEMA
- Data submitted must be certified by a registered professional engineer *or*
- A Federal agency with responsibility for levee design may certify the levee.
- Levee owners and communities have a choice.



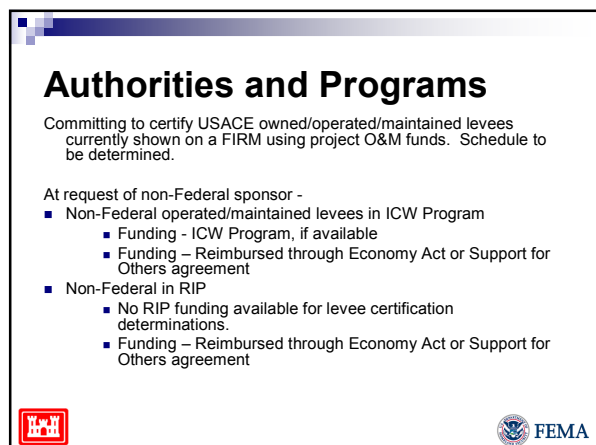
Risk Analysis Approach

- Objective: Improve decision making and confidence by quantifying, using, and disclosing risk and uncertainty in key data and parameters.
- In 1997, USACE issued an internal levee certification policy
 - Discussed and agreed upon with FEMA
 - Supplements 44 CFR 65.10
 - Requires the application of its risk analysis policy to levee certification

Updated Guidance, 23Jun06

- Risk analysis will be applied.
 - No grandfathering, no exemptions.
 - Apply methods to H&H.
 - Will extend to include structural/geotechnical and operational aspects – Dam Safety and Levee Safety Programs
- Full and complete engineering analysis with field inspection.
- Document findings, certification to be signed by PE Chief of Engineering Division.







Authorities and Programs

Committing to certify USACE owned/operated/maintained levees currently shown on a FIRM using project O&M funds. Schedule to be determined.

At request of non-Federal sponsor -

- Non-Federal operated/maintained levees in ICW Program
 - Funding - ICW Program, if available
 - Funding – Reimbursed through Economy Act or Support for Others agreement
- Non-Federal in RIP
 - No RIP funding available for levee certification determinations.
 - Funding – Reimbursed through Economy Act or Support for Others agreement

Authorities and Programs

- Other Federal Levees - at the request of the Federal agency
 - Funding received from requesting Federal agency through Economy Act
- Cannot do determinations for non-Federal levees not in a USACE program (private, state, local built, owned, operated), unless part of a larger cost-shared project
 - Funding – project appropriated funds
- USACE projects in study, design/or construction – Requested by non-Federal sponsor and agreed to be part of the overall project costs
- Cannot initiate a cost-shared study or project exclusively for levee certification



Flood Plain Management Services

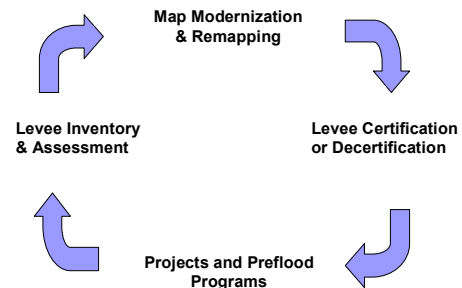
For any project, using Flood Plain Management Services (FPMS)

- Can provide support for levee certification determinations for others to certify under
- Support activities can include – data collection, mapping, H&H analysis, geotechnical investigations, etc.
- 100% Federally funded, if available
- Can accept voluntary contributions from state or local government to expand scope
- Cannot certify a levee under this program.



Next Steps

- Continue to support MapMod and levee certifications.
 - Working closely on PAL Scenarios
- Preparing Engineering Technical Letter (ETL) for levee certification. Scheduled to be complete 4th quarter – '07. FEMA for ITR.
- Link inspection programs, risk assessments, and levee certifications.
- Need for USACE/FEMA field offices to stay engaged.
- Developing joint USACE/FEMA outreach materials.



The Silver Jackets Program

- Provide life-cycle hazard planning
- Develop and maintain strong partnerships
- Improve processes, identify gaps, and make recommendations
- Leverage resources and information
- Be active participants with State-wide planning



Program Structure

- Initiate a team in each State
- Focus on State priorities
- Will not duplicate similar efforts
 - Establish relationships where they don't exist
 - Strengthen existing relationships
 - Supplement successful teams
- Lead facilitators: USACE, FEMA, State NFIP, and State EMA



Opportunities for California

- Good foundation from meetings last year
 - Goal: create an integrated program for risk management
 - Structure team in California
 - Priority issues discussed – risk communication, floodplain mapping/levees, planning prior to events, list of key events, look at long-term strategies



Questions?

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